



Commission on Rehabilitation Services Meeting

Friday, July 10, 2020

10 a.m. (Eastern)

Virtual Meeting

MEETING MINUTES

I. Call to Order/Roll Call/Welcome

The meeting was called to order by David Spradley –VR Commission Chair at 10:00 a.m.

A	Greg Bedan	V	Joel Boehner	V	Sarah Chestnut
V	Christine Dahlberg	V	Donna Elbrecht	V	Shawn Fulton
V	Melissa Keyes	V	Theresa Koleszar	V	PJ McGrew
A	Danei’l Mize	V	Amber O’Haver	V	Michelle Oja
V	Richard Propes	A	Marc Ruiz	V	David Spradley
V	Willaine St. Pierre Sandy	V	Frederick Vaiana	I, V	Sarah Clark

(A=Absent, P=Present, T=Teleconference, Virtual =V, I=Invited Guest)

II. Approval of the May 8, 2020 meeting minutes

Motion: Sarah Chestnut

Second: Christine Dahlberg

The Commission voted unanimously in favor.

III. Public Comments

a) No public comments were given

IV. BRS Director Update – Theresa Koleszar

a) VR participant questionnaire – COVID-19

- VR is working with participants to obtain information to see how VR participants have been impacted by COVID-19 and also identify individual needs for regaining, retaining, or finding new employment.
- 267 responses have been received as of July 6, 2020.
- Early data was shared with the Commission members.

b) Reopening of the VR offices.

- Safety precautions are being taken to reopen the field offices.
 1. Precautions include wearing of masks, signage, office cleanings and purchase of additional cleaning supplies for frequently touched surfaces, physical distancing, and Plexiglas.
 2. Many services continue to be conducted remotely, where appropriate

c) Partnership with Division of Mental Health & Addiction on VOICE project

- Visionary Opportunities for Increasing Competitive Employment (VOICE)
 1. Focused on improving employment services and outcomes for individuals with mental health disabilities

2. Receiving 300 hours of training and technical assistance through Department of Labor VOICE project
3. Online training series coming soon

V. Committee Updates

- a) Commission members were asked to volunteer for committees and to designate a chairperson.
 - Policy & Oversight and Planning & Evaluation Committee, Donna Elbrecht - Chairperson
 - Recruitment, Public Outreach, and Commission Development Committee, Amber O’Haver - Chairperson
 - Customer Satisfaction Committee, Joel Boehner - Chairperson
 - Awards Committee, Michelle Oja - Chairperson
 - Employment First, Christine Dahlberg – Chairperson

VI. Employment First – Christine Dahlberg

- a) Updates to the Employment First plan were made.
 - Commission members agreed to have a special meeting on August 14, 2020 to focus on the Employment First Plan.

VII. Virtual Staff Awards

- a) A virtual staff awards presentation will be held during the September meeting.
- b) Michelle Oja, Chairperson for the Awards Committee will create a survey for the awards presentation.

VIII. Announcements

- a) No announcements

IX. Next meeting August 14, 2020 Meeting

X. Meeting Adjourns 12:00 p.m.

Motion: Christine Dahlberg

Second: Michelle Oja

The Commission voted unanimously in favor.

Future meeting dates:

Date	Time	Location	Address
August 14, 2020	10 a.m. – 1 p.m.	Virtual Meeting	Special meeting to work on Employment First Plan
September 11, 2020	10 a.m. – 1 p.m.	TBD	
November 13, 2020	10 a.m. – 1 p.m.	TBD	